

Posada, Dolores

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2007 9:00 AM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Dianne DeBois
2425 Ashdale Dr. #101, Austin TX 78757
512 371 0804

Liz Carpenter Park
Liz Carpenter

She is one of Austin's brightest stars: a native daughter who distinguished herself as a leader at the University of Texas; an illustrious political reporter for the Austin American-Statesman; and a pioneering public servant to four different Presidents. Liz Carpenter's work as a reporter, press secretary, political aide, author, and humorist has enriched and brought honor to Austin and the United States in immeasurable ways, and it seems fitting for the city to honor her work with "Liz Carpenter Park."

Liz Carpenter grew up in Austin and graduated from Austin High School and the University of Texas, where she served as the first female vice president of the student body. She covered the White House and Congress for the Austin American-Statesman and other publications for the next 18 years. She later became the first woman executive assistant to the vice-president when she went to work for then-Vice President Lyndon Johnson. She wrote the remarks President Johnson delivered hours after President Kennedy was assassinated on November 22nd, 1963. She later served as chief of staff and press secretary First Lady Lady Bird Johnson, the first professional newswoman to serve as press secretary to a first lady. After leaving the White House, she served as a vice president at the Hill and Knowlton public relations firm. Carpenter helped found the National Women's Political Caucus and led a national organization ("ERAmerica") that fought for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. She is also a best-selling author and humorist. She was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Texas and to the Texas Women's Hall of Fame.

Carpenter served as executive assistant to then-Vice President Lyndon Johnson and chief of staff and press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson. She served on the International Women's Year Commission under President Gerald Ford, President Jimmy Carter appointed Carpenter Assistant Secretary of Education for Public Affairs, and President Clinton appointed her to the White House Conference on Aging.

Carpenter has a long history with parks, including her work with Lady Bird Johnson on the Town Lake hike and bike trail, and her work planning a Big Bend visit for Lady Bird Johnson. She has frequently expressed a love for parks and even an unfulfilled dream to direct the National Park Service.

Liz Carpenter will leave the city of Austin an enduring legacy: of astute writing and journalism, dedicated public service, and potent and courageous social activism. She has been a devoted resident of the city for decades, and she remains actively involved in protecting its welfare. With the renaming of a park in her honor, the City of Austin has a chance to thank Liz Carpenter for her contributions both to the city and to the nation—and to ensure future generations will know of her legacy.

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007 9:09 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Laura M. Eggert
1801 Wells Branch Pkwy, #1508, Austin, TX 78728
512-252-4623

Liz Carpenter park
Liz Carpenter

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2007 7:00 AM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Collett Foyt
6704 Fireoak Dr
512-258-5592

Liz Carpenter Park.

Ms. Carpenter is one of Austin's brightest stars: a native daughter who distinguished herself as a leader at the University of Texas; an illustrious political reporter for the Austin American-Statesman; and a pioneering public servant to four different Presidents. Liz Carpenter's work as a reporter, press secretary, political aide, author, and humorist has enriched and brought honor to Austin and the United States in immeasurable ways, and it seems fitting for the city to honor her work with Liz Carpenter Park."

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2007 11:31 AM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Emily Garrison
12406 Bluestone Circle
512-554-8219

Liz Carpenter Park
Liz Carpenter

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2007 1:39 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

mike harris
8246 summer side drive
512 241-2962

town lake to liz carpenter park
liz carpenter park
an austin icon

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2007 4:12 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Charles Herring
1204 Castle Hill Street, Austin 78703
(512) 473 2375
cherring@herring-irwin.com
Liz Carpenter Park (for Town Lake Park)

wikipedia entry:

Elizabeth "Liz" Sutherland Carpenter (born September 1, 1920 in Salado, Texas) is a writer, feminist, former reporter, media advisor, speechwriter, political humorist, and public relations expert. Carpenter stood at the forefront of the Women's Movement when it began and never wavered from her platform. Her projects and causes range from supporting high tech to fighting cancer. Often called the "funniest woman in politics", she is still in demand as a public speaker.

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[edit] Biography

[edit] Early life

Carpenter is a sixth generation Texan who attended Austin High School in Austin, Texas and later The University of Texas where she was a member of Alpha Phi, the Orange Jackets and the first female vice president of the University of Texas student body.

[edit] Media and political career

In 1942, Carpenter began covering the White House and Congress for the Austin American-Statesman. For the next eighteen years, she reported on presidents from Franklin D. Roosevelt to John F. Kennedy as a Washington reporter.

Carpenter joined the staff of Lyndon B. Johnson in his campaign for Vice President in 1961 and traveled on his foreign missions as a press spokeswoman. After his election, she became the first woman executive assistant to the vice-president.

Mrs. Carpenter was in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963 at the time of the assassination of John F. Kennedy. She drafted the 58 words that Johnson used on his return to Washington:

This is a sad time for all people. We have suffered a loss that cannot be weighed. For me, it is a deep personal tragedy. I know that the world shares the sorrow that Mrs. Kennedy and her family bear. I will do my best. That is all I can do. I ask for your help and God's.

Following Johnson's succession to the presidency, Carpenter became the first professional newswoman to be press secretary to a first lady for Lady Bird Johnson (1963-1969), for whom she also served as staff director. Carpenter also contributed to the speeches of President Johnson, particularly in the field of humor by creating the White House Humor Group.

After the Johnson Administration ended in 1969, she wrote Ruffles and Flourishes, her account of her White House experiences.

She was a vice president of Hill and Knowlton in Washington after leaving the White House. In 1971, she was one of the founders of the National Women's Political Caucus and co-chair of ERAmerica, traveling the country to push for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

She was appointed by President Gerald Ford to the International Women's Year Commission, by President Jimmy Carter to serve as Assistant Secretary of Education for Public Affairs, and by President Bill Clinton to serve on the White House Conference on Aging.

[edit] Literary career

She returned to Texas in 1976, where she has written several books: Unplanned Parenthood, Random House 1994; Getting Better All the Time, Simon and Schuster 1986, as well as countless articles and forays on the lecture circuit. Start With a Laugh, gives humorous advice on speech writing, was published by Eakin Press and launched at the opening of the National Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future in Dallas. Her most recent book, Presidential Humor[1], Bright Sky Press 2006, is a compilation of quips and quotes from "George the First to George the Worst."

[edit] Awards and recognition

Mrs. Carpenter was named a Distinguished Alumna of the University of Texas in 1975, and in 1990 was named distinguished alumnae of the Department of Communications. She was named by Governor Mark White to the Texas Women's Hall of Fame. She was given the ProBene Award of the College of Liberal Arts.

The Liz Carpenter Lectureship was established in 1984 by a group of her friends, including Erma Bombeck and Mark Russell, who gave a performance at the Paramount Theater to raise funds for it. In the last several years, Mrs. Carpenter's lectureship in the College of Liberal Arts has brought President Bill Clinton, President Gerald Ford, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Jehan Sadat, Maya Angelou, Bill Moyers, Jane Goodall, and writers such as Betty Friedan, Nora Ephron, Shana Alexander, and Jean Auel and nationally known humorists such as Fannie Flagg and Carol Channing.

The Liz Carpenter Award is given annually for the best scholarly book on the history of women and Texas published during the calendar year. The Award was established in 1992 by an anonymous donor who is committed to the publication of scholarly research on the history of women and Texas. The award honors Liz Carpenter, a sixth-generation Texan, for her commitment to the pursuit of the history of women in Texas and for a lifetime of achievements that qualify her as a maker of that history.

She is the recipient of Alpha Phi's Frances E. Willard Award in 1980.

[edit] Quotes about Liz Carpenter

"Liz Carpenter is much more than an American original: she is an American and a Texas original. Her inside stories of our nation's political life over the last half-century are priceless." Walter Cronkite

"No one remains the same person after meeting Liz ...(she) makes Auntie Mame look like a shut-in." Erma Bombeck

"Her combination of wit and wisdom is infectious, encouraging, enlightening. Texas never had a truer daughter. Her zest for life is an example to us all." James Michener

"(Liz is) the tilt-a-whirl at the State Fair with all the lights on and the music. The only difference between Liz and a tilt-a-whirl is that, with Liz, the ride never comes to an end." Ann Richards

"...a human dynamo, P.T. Barnum. She could sell anyone the proverbial Brooklyn Bridge or the Washington Monument." Helen Thomas

"She manages to phrase issues the way people experience them, rather than using all those words that end in t-i-o-n and deaden your brain." Gloria Steinem

[edit] References

In the book *Liz Carpenter: Girl from Salado*, author Betty Wilke Cox tells the story of this noted writer, journalist and former press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson.

Austin Chronicle feature on 'Miz Liz'

University of Texas - Alpha Phi sorority Liz Carpenter speaks at Week of Women LBJ's Texas White House Texas Women's Political Caucus National Women's Conference Review of Start With a Laugh: An Insider's Guide to Roasts, Toasts, Eulogies, and Other Speeches The Official Liz Carpenter Website.

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liz_Carpenter"

See bio info above.

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2007 11:51 AM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Keith Hogan
1011 Great Britain Boulevard
512-280-5402
businessksh@yahoo.com
Liz Carpenter Park

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 3:23 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Lee Leffingwell
301 West 2nd Street, Austin, TX 78701
512-974-2260

Liz Carpenter Park
Liz Carpenter

Carpenter, 87, graduated from the University of Texas and worked as a journalist at the Austin American-Statesman and other publications for many years before serving as executive assistant to then-Vice President Lyndon Johnson and chief of staff and press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson. She served on the International Women's Year Commission under President Gerald Ford, and President Jimmy Carter appointed Carpenter Assistant Secretary of Education for Public Affairs.

Besides her public service, Carpenter has written many articles and books, including *Conversations of a Seventy-Something Surrogate Mother* and *Getting Better All the Time*. She also received a distinguished alumnus award from the University of Texas and is a member of the Texas Women's Hall of Fame.

Carpenter worked for both Lyndon Baines Johnson as the first woman executive assistant to the Vice President. She wrote the remarks President Johnson delivered hours after President Kennedy was assassinated on November 22nd, 1963. She later served as chief of staff and press secretary First Lady Lady Bird Johnson. One of her colleagues said Carpenter combined "the best of Madison Avenue and a Barnum and Bailey circus" in her work as press secretary. Carpenter helped found the National Women's Political Caucus and led a national organization that fought for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. She is also a best-selling author and humorist.

Carpenter has a long history with parks, including her work with Lady Bird Johnson on the Town Lake hike and bike trail, and her work planning a Big Bend visit for Lady Bird Johnson. She has frequently expressed a love for parks and even an unfulfilled dream to direct the National Park Service.

Liz Carpenter worked by Lady Bird Johnson's side for many years. With the recent renaming of Lady Bird Lake, I hope the community will find it fitting to honor Liz Carpenter's name alongside Mrs. Johnson's, so future Austinites will know what both extraordinary women did for our country, our state, and our city.

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2007 3:07 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Donna Beth McCormick
5703 Shoalwood Ave.
512-453-2696
dbmc@texas.net
Liz Carpenter Park

Liz Carpenter is an Austin institution - graduating from Austin High, University of Texas. Serving as a reporter in Washington, DC for the Statesman and other papers; press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson; Asst. Secretary of Education in the Carter Administration; a pioneer in the Equal Rights for Women movement; an author; wrote the now famous words that President Johnson spoke when sworn in as President on Air Force One after President Kennedy was killed. She is a distinguished alumna of UT and has a lectureship named for her in the College of Communications.

There is not enough room for the causes that Liz Carpenter has championed in Austin, Texas, and the US. Education, equal rights, political involvement, beautification. She served in the Johnson, Carter, and Clinton administrations in various capacities. As Press Secretary to Mrs. Johnson, she promoted her idea of nature, beautification, environment. During Liz's active years, she was a visitor and walker in parks, and thought that director of the park service would be an ideal job. She planned and encouraged the Big Bend publicity of Lady Bird's visit.

Liz Carpenter has been involved with Austin since the 1920s. Moving back to Austin from Washington, DC. and becoming active in the community. Liz knows everyone! She is a very active Austinite and promotes Austin. What better tribute than to have the Liz Carpenter Park on the Lady Bird Lake!

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2007 5:46 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Etna McLoughlin
8236 Summer Side Dr
5123945876

Liz Carpenter Park

I run there all the time and I think Liz Carpenter should be the name of the park. She has been an inspiration to me since I too had to be guardian to my grand daughter.
I am a Democrat! <P>

Posada, Dolores

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2007 3:08 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Kay Sterling
8338 Summerwood Dr.
512-345-7391
ksterling1@austin.rr.com
Liz Carpenter Park

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Posada, Dolores

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2007 4:08 PM
To: Posada, Dolores
Subject: Facility Name Form (TL - Liz Carpenter Park)

Linda Young
7000 Timarou Terrace
512 278 1959

Liz Carpenter Park (replace Town Lk PK)

Liz Carpenter

Liz Carpenter, Austin High and UT Austin graduate, has been a Lone Star Favorite Daughter and S-hero for decades. 1st woman VP of the UT student body, staffer and friend to President Johnson and Lady Bird, noted writer and humorist, and a champion for women in public roles and influence.

Liz served in Johnson White House, but also as appointed member of committees under subsequent presidents. She has been involved in social justice issues, public advocacy, and worked on a wide range of committees at state and local levels as well as national. Liz worked with Lady Bird Johnson on support for the Town Lake (now Lady Bird Lake) hike and bike trail, and was publicly supportive of public parks and park projects. Renaming Town Lake Park for Liz would be so appropriate, especially now that it is Lady Bird Lake and she had remained one of Lady Bird's closest friends.

Liz is, again, a favorite daughter of Texas, but more than that is a native Austinite who helped showcase our state and home town. We have too few "larger than life" role models not to give honor and permanent recognition to this one.

I wholeheartedly support the naming of the Park to the Liz Carpenter Park. I treasure her personally, and hope that the City will recognize her contributions in this very appropriate honor. <P>